Establishment of independent Commission against corruption

2165. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously considering to establish an independent Commission against corruption;

(b) whether it is a fact that the existing law enforcement machinery including police has become hugely corrupt;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the details of numerous reports from Commission which have recognised the problem of corruption in said institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Inquiry into misbehaviour of Judges

2166. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Judges of the Gujarat High Court had verbally fought with each other in the recent past;

(b) if so, whether an inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report and the findings thereof;

(d) the action taken/being taken against such misbehaviour by the Judges of the High Court; and

(e) what action Government propose to avoid such instances in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court of India has been consulted in the matter and they have informed as below:

(i) The factual position, as reported to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, is that an incident, as also reported by the press, involving

misbehaviour on the part of two Judges of the Gujarat High Court took place on 11 th January, 2007. One Judge alleged misbehaviour and the other denied the version given by the former.

(ii) No formal enquiry had been conducted in this regard and hence there is no question of any report or findings.

(iii) No formal enquiry having been conducted, there is no question of any action taken/being taken against the alleged misbehaviour.

(e) Government has introduced Judges (Inquiry) Bill, 2006 in the Lok Sabha on December 19, 2006 which shall devise a suitable legislative framework for empowering a judicial forum to deal with complaints against judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Amendment of National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005

2167. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to amend the National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005 in the wake of the SC Judgement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Keeping in view of the observations made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 9th January, 2007 in the Transfer Case (Civil) No. 116 of 2006—Sandeep Goyal *Vs.* Union of India and Others, the National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Ordinance, 2007 was promulgated on 29th January, 2007. The National Tax Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2007 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 01.03.2007 for replacing the National Tax Tribunal (Amendment), Ordinance, 2007.

(c) Does not arise.